

**Minutes  
State Board of Education  
Monday, August 27, 2007**

D. Presentation, Discussion and Consideration to Approve Request for Suspension of Operations for Enterprise Academy Charter School

Ms. DeAnna Rowe, Executive Director, Arizona State Board for Charter Schools, presented the request for Enterprise Academy to have a temporary suspension for one school year. Additional information regarding the request is included in the materials packet.

Ms. Harmon asked if Enterprise Academy complied with the original terms of their charter and Ms. Rowe referenced the documentation provided to the Board, and pointed out that they do a compliance check for each school when they come before the Charter Board and that Enterprise Academy is in compliance.

Ms. Harmon asked for information regarding the original charter, as far as leadership, academic performance, etc., and Ms. Rowe responded that the original letter asking for a suspension speaks specifically to the intent of the charter, mission and the programs they want to put in place. She noted that as they are reflecting back on their programs, they decided they may not be where they would like to be, but their intent is to look again at the documentation they have and determine whether or not they can appropriately implement it. She noted that Enterprise Academy will then submit the amendment request to the Charter Board office.

Ms. Harmon stated her concerns about what the effect of putting this charter on hold will have on the students and asked if the organization comes up with a new concept and/or a new way to implement the concept, would they be able to re-apply for the next cycle with the State Board for Charter Schools.

Ms. Rowe said yes and as part of the discussions with the school given the direction of the revisions, the evaluation of their programs, and the identification of the things that might be reviewed and revised, it might be better to surrender their charter contract and then apply for a new contract under the State Board for Charter Schools. Ms. Rowe noted that the discussion regarding consideration of cycles began in June, but that the deadline to submit an application to open in this cycle, 2008-2009, is August. She added that the school did not have ample time to do the work they had intended to do but would be required to submit an application.

Ms. Owen stated that she would like to understand the financial impacts and Ms. Rowe responded that the schools get paid for each fiscal year that they are in operation and the school did provide academic services throughout the school year. She added that the school has not received financial assistance for the 07-08 school year.

Ms. Mendoza asked Mr. Bleu, Enterprise Academy Charter representative, about the decrease in student enrollment specifically asking what areas of concern they have and Mr. Bleu stated that the areas of concern were outlined in the materials, but that they are not satisfied with their performance in relation to AIMS and the pre- and post- tests that they administer. He noted that they plan to take a thorough review of the mission, the objectives of the school, and curriculum, and then come back with a plan that will enable them to achieve a high enrollment, performing status, and a much higher level of qualifications.

Ms. Mendoza asked if there were any specific problems they could point out and Mr. Bleu stated that there were several areas such as staff qualifications and commitment to excellence in education.

Ms. Mendoza mentioned that she admired their honesty and the timeliness in dealing with the issues in moving forward to make changes.

Mr. Ary expressed a commendation to Mr. Bleu and his agency for taking the initiative to step up and recognize the areas that need to be worked on. Motion by Mr. Ary and seconded by Mr. Lucero to approve the request for suspension of operations for Enterprise Academy Charter School.

*Motion passes. Ms. Harmon voted no.*